

PROCEEDINGS

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FOR ESTABLISHING

A PLAN OF

GENERAL

COW - POCK INOCULATION,

With a View to the

EXTINCTION

OF THE

SMALL - POX,

IN THE

TOWN OF NOTTINGHAM.





PROCEEDINGS,

&c.

AT a meeting of the Medical Faculty, residing in NOTTINGHAM, held the 16th. of October, 1805, for the purpose of considering the propriety of their coming forward as a Body to promote some plan for a General Cow Pock Inoculation.

RESOLVED, 1st, That it is our unanimous opinion that the Inoculation of the Cow Pock, as discovered by Dr. Jenner, illustrated and practised by himself and others, is highly deserving the Patronage and Support of all Ranks, but more especially of the Medical Faculty, as holding forth, under skilful management, the most efficacious protection from the multiplied evils of that periodical pestilence the Natural Small Pox, and even promising the entire extermination of that direful contagion, whenever the means can be devised of enforcing a general adoption of it at a very early period of life.

THAT this has several years been the decided opinion of the greater number now present, appears from the individual though ineffectual support they have given to that practice, both by their example in their own families and among their relations, their reasonings, and their offers of gratuitous Inoculation to the poor.

2nd. THAT as it does not appear the practice of Cow Pock Inoculation has hitherto been adopted here in the degree that the individual exertions of the Medical Faculty in its favour would have justified us in expecting, we have judged it expedient THUS TO DECLARE IN A BODY, OUR unanimous opinion in favour of this practice, and our earnest recommendation that some plan may be adopted to encourage a General Inoculation of the Cow Pock among all ranks, and that a permanent Charitable Establishment be formed under proper Directors for the sole purpose of extending its benefits to the poor gratuitously.

3rd. THAT as the extention of contagion by the practice of Small Pox Inoculation is wholly inconsistent with the object we now have in view, we do hereby engage to do all in our power to dissuade from and discourage that practice.

4th. THAT three of our number be deputed to wait upon the Mayor with these Resolutions, requesting his concurrence in their object, so far as to call a General Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town, in the hope of obtaining the sanction of our Fellow Citizens and their support in conducting a measure that appears to us full of importance.

RESOLVED,—that Dr. Pennington, Mr. Attenburrow, and Mr. Calton be appointed to wait upon the Mayor for the above purpose.

SIGNED,

JOHN STORER, M. D.	THOMAS BIRCH
WILLIAM MARSDEN, M. D.	THOMAS HUCKELL
CHARLES PENNINGTON, M. D.	THOMAS CALTON
JAMES CLARKE, M. D.	ROBERT THOMPSON
THOMAS WRIGHT	JOSEPH FLEWITT
JOHN WRIGHT	BENJAMIN MADDOCK
WARTON PARTRIDGE	SAMUEL MADDOCK
JOHN ATTENBURROW	JOHN BIGSBY
THOMAS BASNETT	HENRY OLDKNOW
WILLIAM WILLIAMS	RICHARD WING.

AT a General Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Nottingham, convened by the Mayor, held at the Exchange Hall, on Wednesday the 23rd. day of October, 1805, to consider of the best means of promoting a plan of GENERAL VACCINATION and of forming an establishment for the purpose of extending its benefits to the Poorer Classes of this populous town,

EDW. SWANN, Esq. Mayor, in the Chair,

Resolved unanimously, that this Meeting, impressed by the very interesting representation of the Gentlemen of the Faculty made to the Mayor, entertains the most firm conviction that a permanent establishment for inoculating the poor with the Cow Pock, and for promoting a General Inoculation for the same throughout all ranks of society within the reach of our influence, is worthy of the Patronage and Support of the Great Body of the Inhabitants of this manufacturing district, and that a Public Subscription be solicited to be applied to this purpose.

Resolved unanimously, that a small permanent Committee be appointed, to consist of the following Gentlemen, (viz.) The MAYOR, Dr. STORER, Dr. PENNINGTON, The Rev. CHARLES WYLDE, D. D. The Rev. Mr. ALLIOTT, Mr. ATTENBURROW, and Mr. MADDOCK, who shall be called "The Directors of the Institution for promoting a General Inoculation for the Cow Pock within the town of Nottingham," who are empowered by this Meeting to devise the best means of attaining the object of this Institution, and who being charged with the power of carrying the same into complete execution, shall direct the application of the Funds which the Public may think proper to devote to this purpose, and be authorized to elect a Secretary, and to appoint new members of the Institution, whenever it may be necessary in consequence of the death, absence, or resignation of any of the present members.

EDWARD SWANN, MAYOR.

Resolved, that the thanks of this meeting be given to the Mayor for calling the same, and for his liberal conduct throughout the whole of the business thereof.

At a meeting of the Directors of the Institution for Vaccine Inoculation, held for the first time on the 31st of October, 1805, it was agreed, that for the better attainment of the purposes of the Institution, and the better regulation of their proceedings, *the following General Rules* be observed.

I. THAT the Directors shall meet at least twice in every month, for the purpose of receiving Reports of the State of Vaccination, of inspecting the Records, and adopting such measures as shall appear to them to be the best calculated to promote the success of that practice.

II. THAT the Directors of this Institution do not propose to take upon themselves any share in the executive part of this plan, except that the Medical Members of it shall at all times be ready, when called upon, to give their advice, either individually or in consultation, on any question of doubt or difficulty that may arise in the practice.

III. THAT a Physician be appointed to the Vaccine Institution; and that it shall be his duty, to be ready to give his advice, when called upon by the Surgeon, when any doubt arises respecting the propriety of inoculating any individual, or in any case of irregular symptoms occurring during the process; to see each patient that is vaccinated under the direction of the Institution at least once during the process, and that more especially, in its

advanced stage, that he may be prepared to give his opinion how far it has proved satisfactory or otherwise, and to request, whenever he may judge it necessary, the assistance of any one or more of the Medical Members of the Institution, to decide any question of doubt or difficulty that may arise.

IV. THAT a Surgeon be appointed to this Institution, whose duty it shall be to visit all the poorer families of the three parishes in the town, in regular rotation, beginning at some one part of it; to encourage and persuade them to accept the advantages offered by the Institution, and to vaccinate as many as are willing and are deemed fit subjects for this practice; to visit each patient that has been vaccinated, at three distinct periods after vaccination, and make as many written reports on the case, adding such observations on each case as shall be thought necessary by the Physician and himself.

IN case of any irregularity occurring in the progress of the symptoms, to call upon the Physician for his assistance, and to keep a regular register of each case in a tabular form, including the name, age, and dwelling of each patient, and three distinct reports of the progress and observations, as above stated.

Resolved, that an Address to the Public be prepared by Dr. Pennington, the Rev. Mr. Alliott, and Mr. Coldham, to be submitted to the next meeting.

AT a meeting of the Directors of the VACCINE INSTITUTION, the 7th day of November, 1805.

DR. CLARKE having, on the application of Dr. WYLDE and Dr. STORER, offered to act, *gratuitously*, as Physician to this Institution.

Resolved,—that his liberal offer be thankfully accepted, and that he be appointed Physician to this Institution.

Resolved,—that Mr. THOS. CALTON be appointed Vaccinating Surgeon to this Institution.

Resolved,—that Mr. COLDHAM be appointed Secretary to this Institution.

Resolved,—that the Address, prepared by Dr. PENNINGTON, the Rev. Mr. ALLIOTT, and Mr. COLDHAM, now read, be approved and adopted as the Act of the Directors, signed by the Secretary in their names, and published in the Nottingham Journal.

GEO. COLDHAM, Sec.

INSTITUTION

TO PROMOTE

COW - POX INOCULATION,

IN THE

TOWN OF NOTTINGHAM.



THE Directors of this Institution, the design of which is to prevent the dissemination of the Small Pox in this populous town, and, as much as possible, to contribute to the extermination of that malignant and fatal disease, request the attention of the Inhabitants in general and of Parents and Heads of Families in particular, to the following facts and observations.

HUMAN nature is not ordinarily liable to a more severe and dreadful scourge than the Small Pox. When this disease is taken by casual infection, as is generally the case among the poor, it is estimated that it is fatal in the proportion of one case to six; but the severe and distressing symptoms of this horrid distemper, and the dreadful mortality which it produces in families and neighbourhoods, constitute but a part of its baneful effects: it frequently entails on its unhappy subjects, personal deformity, permanent weakness, partial or entire deafness, blindness or defect of sight; and is not seldom the parent of those scrofulous and consumptive diseases which have so generally and fatally prevailed during the last century.

It is true that a milder form of this disease has been obtained by the discovery of Inoculation; but, even thus meliorated, it is still a painful and troublesome disorder, producing very pernicious effects on the constitution, and proving sometimes fatal: for, it is estimated that one in 300 dies under the influence of inoculated small pox. But a serious objection to inoculation for the small pox results from this reflection, that, by the practice

of it, a most infectious and malignant disorder is introduced into families, neighbourhoods and towns; and thus, while one life is preserved, many are sacrificed. To this cause it is to be attributed, that more deaths have been occasioned by the small pox since this practice was adopted than before. In the first thirty years of the last century, before the effects of inoculation could be known, in 1000 deaths 74 were occasioned by small pox; whereas in the last thirty years of the same century it appears, that 95 in 1000 were the result of that disease: which mortality chiefly falls on the poorer class.

THE disease called the Cow Pox has been known, for many years in several counties in the west of England, to free those who had past under its influence from the danger of the small pox infection. Within the last eight years, the public attention has been directed to it as a complete antidote,—a certain protection against it; medical and scientific men have devoted that attention to this discovery which the importance of it, to society and humanity, required; and the result of a patient and an unbiassed observation of it, in its nature, progress, and effect, has been an almost universal approbation of the practice of Cow Pox Inoculation, and an earnest recommendation of it, as promising, if generally adopted, entirely to exterminate that direful and destructive contagion.

THE Cow Pox is found to be so extremely mild in its action on the human frame, as seldom to require the aid of internal medicine; nor has it been observed to be followed by any enervating or distressing effects: and it possesses this singular and prepossessing recommendation, by which it is particularly distinguished from small pox,—that it is incapable of being communicated but by inoculation; so that persons in health may sleep in the same bed with those who have it, without suffering the least inconvenience.

It has indeed been asserted, that the Cow Pox does not universally secure from the infection of the Small Pox. But, on a very strict scrutiny, it appears, that of 250,000 persons who have been inoculated for the Cow Pox, only 50 persons have been alleged to have afterwards taken the Small Pox. Admitting the full amount of this assertion, it would then appear, that only one person in 5000 is liable to Small Pox, after having passed thro' the Cow Pox. But of these 50 cases, only 10 have been substantiated by

admissible evidence; and it is to be presumed, that even of these some error might have occurred in the introduction of the disease; or, as in some asserted cases of small pox subsequent to small pox, the Chicken Pox has been mistaken for the Small Pox.

FROM these facts it is clearly to be inferred, that while one person in 300 perishes under the influence of inoculated small pox, only one patient in 25,000 is liable to take the small pox after having passed through the disease of cow pox.

IT has been objected, that the cow pox has been followed by troublesome eruptive complaints; in a few instances this may have been the case, but these have been so few, that it is far more reasonable to impute them to some constitutional cause in the patient, than to the cow pox: and if such eruptions have been produced by this mild disease, it may be presumed that consequences, much more to be lamented, would have resulted from either the natural or inoculated small pox.

THE Directors of the VACCINE INSTITUTION trust, that a practice which promises such very considerable individual and general advantages, and which has been recommended by the unanimous voice of all the Medical Faculty, will be universally adopted; the only remaining obstacle, that of trouble and expence to the poor, it is the design of the Institution which they have been appointed to conduct, to obviate. Relying on the benevolent liberality of the wealthy, they have engaged Mr. CALTON, on whose skill and attention they can depend, to inoculate the children of the poor at their own houses, and to inspect the progress of the disease; in the discharge of which trust they have the satisfaction to announce, that he will be regularly assisted by DR. CLARKE, and, if necessary, by the advice of the Medical Gentlemen of the Institution: and they earnestly intreat the poor, on their part, to accept the offer which Mr. Calton will make them, as the means of preserving themselves and their families from a most direful disease,—their children from death, or from disorders which render life burdensome and useless,—and their neighbours from a malignant and destructive contagion.—They beg leave, finally, to protest against the practice of Small Pox Inoculation; a resource, which, although it produces satisfaction to individual persons, yet at the same time exposes the

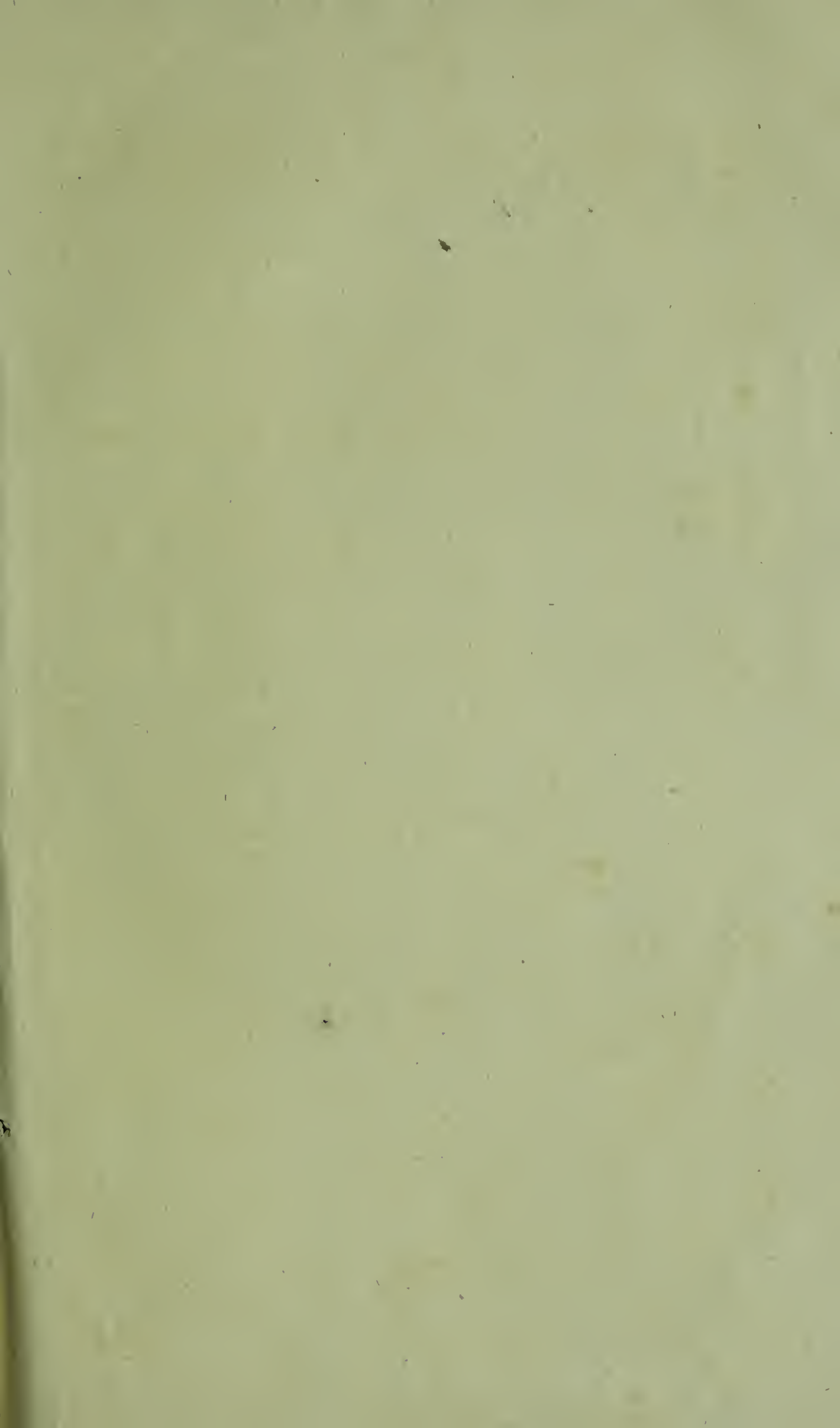
Lives and comfort of many hundreds to imminent danger ; and is calculated to disseminate and perpetuate the most deadly pest with which the world has been ever visited.

By Order of the Directors,

GEO. COLDHAM, *Sec.*

NOTTINGHAM, Nov. 12, 1805.

J. Dunn, Printer, Nottingham



Mr Weyer